

CLAIMS

5 1. Method of translating input data into at least one lexical output sequence, including
a step of decoding input data during which sub-lexical entities represented by the said data are
identified by means of a first model constructed on the basis of predetermined sub-lexical
entities, and during which there are generated, as the sub-lexical entities are identified and
with reference to at least one second model constructed on the basis of lexical entities, various
10 possible combinations of the said sub-lexical entities,

a method characterised in that the decoding step includes a substep of storing a
plurality of possible combinations of the said sub-lexical entities, the most likely combination
being intended to form the lexical output sequence.

15 2. Translation method according to Claim 1, characterised in that the storage of a
combination is subject to a validation carried out with reference at least to the second model.

3. Translation method according to Claim 2, characterised in that a validation of
storage of a combination is accompanied by an allocation to the combination to be stored of a
20 probability value representing the likelihood of the said combination.

4. Translation method according to one of Claims 2 or 3, characterised in that various
validation operations relating to various combinations relating to one and the same state of the
first model are executed contiguously in time.

25 5. Translation method according to Claim 1, characterised in that the decoding step
uses a Viterbi algorithm applied to a first Markov model consisting of sub-lexical entities,
under the dynamic control of a second Markov model representing possible combinations of
sub-lexical entities.

30 6. Speech recognition system using a translation method according to one of Claims 1
to 5.